

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P-GFSHERMAN

APPROVED BY NEA-ATHERTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON NEW YORK TIMES STORY ON RABIN

TALKS WITH PRESIDENT FORD

1. GWERTZMAN IN NEW YORK TIMES TODAY HAS STORY RUNNING  
ON INSIDE PAGE HEADLINED QUOTE FORD SAID TO PLAN TO PUSH  
FOR ISRAELI-JORDANIAN TALKS. END QUOTE. MAIN POINT OF  
STORY IS THAT PRESIDENT FORD AGREED WITH RABIN IN THEIR  
TALKS TO INVESTIGATE JORDANIAN WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE FOR  
A WEST BANK AGREEMENT. WIRELESS FILE CARRIES EXCERPTS.

2. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS GIVEN TO THE DEPARTMENT  
SPOKESMAN FOR THE DAILY BRIEFING TODAY:

QUOTE Q. IS IT TRUE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS AGREED TO A

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SUGGESTION BY PRIME MINISTER RABIN HERE TO SEE WHETHER

JORDAN IS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE FOR A WEST BANK AGREEMENT?

A. THAT REPORT IS INCORRECT. IT IS PREMATURE TO DRAW CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE ROUTE TO BE PURSUED IN THE MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS. AS THE WHITE HOUSE SAID FOLLOWING THE

LAST MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER RABIN--THEIR TALKS WERE PART OF THE EXPLORATIONS WE ARE MAKING WITH ALL THE PARTIES IN THE AREA ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED. THEY WERE NOT DECISION-MAKING SESSIONS, AND OUR EXPLORATION OF VARIOUS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES CONTINUES. I HAVE NO DETAILS FOR YOU. WE BELIEVE THE BEST WAY TO MOVE THE PROCESS FORWARD IS THROUGH QUIET DIPLOMACY. END QUOTE.

3. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AT THE BRIEFING. POST MAY, IF ASKED, DRAW ON GUIDANCE TO ANSWER PRESS QUERIES. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 04 FEB 1976  
**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** GFSHERMAN  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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